



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/087,816	03/05/2002	Masamichi Akashi	03500.016251	3000

5514 7590 10/31/2007
FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER

HUNTSINGER, PETER K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2625

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

10/31/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/087,816	Applicant(s) AKASHI, MASAMICHI	
	Examiner Peter K. Huntsinger	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 September 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8, 10, 18, 20, 22 and 38-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8, 10, 18, 20, 22 and 38-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9/21/07 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 9/21/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues on pages 11-14 of the response in essence that: Fan '706 does not disclose the claimed registration unit/step and the control step of the invention in which control is effected based on the port number and computer discrimination information having been correlated in the table.

a. Fan '706 discloses the discrimination information of the external apparatus and the notified port number are correlated (col. 8, lines 32-59, IP source address and destination port compared against an ACL) and registered in the table (col. 11, lines 28-35, adding new ACL items to ensure return traffic).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Art Unit: 2625

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 8, 18, 22, 38, 39, 41, 42, 44, and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fan '706 and Kayashima '366.

Referring to claim 8, Fan '706 discloses a data processing apparatus (network device 301 of Fig. 3, col. 6, lines 26-44) which communicates with a computer via a network, said data processing apparatus, comprising:

a storage unit that stores therein a connection limitation table including connection limitation information (col. 5, lines 16-21, Access Control List) in which discrimination information of a computer and a port number are correlated with each other (col. 8, lines 49-59, specifies the address of communicating hosts and the port numbers they communicate with);

a reception unit that receives a request transmitted from an external apparatus via the network, wherein the request includes a kind of data process to be executed (col. 3, lines 9-16, receiving a packet and identifying an application associated with the packet);

a port number notifying unit that notifies a port number corresponding to a kind of data process included in the request received by said reception unit (col. 7-8, lines 61-67, 1-10, firewall determines which additional channels should be dynamically opened);

a registration unit that correlates discrimination information of the external apparatus which transmitted the request (IP source address) and the port number (destination port) which was notified by said port number notifying unit with each other, forms connection limitation information (col. 8, lines 32-59, IP source address and destination port compared against an ACL), and registers the formed connection limitation information in the connection limitation table stored by said storage unit (col. 11, lines 28-35, adding new ACL items to ensure return traffic);

a data receiving unit that receives data addressed to the port number, from the external apparatus (col. 7, lines 41-51, allow packet transmission); and

a control unit that discriminates whether or not the connection limitation information in which the port number received by said data receiving unit and the discrimination information of the external apparatus are correlated with each other has been registered in the connection limitation table by said registration unit (col. 10, lines 1-9, processes the packet), and controls not to execute the process based on the data received by said data receiving unit in a case where it is discriminated that the connection limitation information has been registered in the connection limitation table, and controls not to execute the process based on the data received by said data receiving unit in a case where it is discriminated that the connection limitation information has not been registered in the connection limitation table (step 408 of Fig. 7, col. 9, lines 32-39, packet is dropped) (col. 8, lines 32-59).

Fan '706 discloses port number negotiation, but does not disclose expressly notifying the external apparatus of a port number.

Kayashima '366 discloses a port number notifying unit that notifies a external apparatus of a port number (col. 10, lines 44-46, server notifies the port number to the client computer).

At the time of the invention, it would have obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to notifying a computer of a port number. The motivation for doing so would have been to inform the computer sending information a port number in which to utilize for communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kayashima '366 with Fan '706 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 8.

Referring to claim 18, see the rejection of claim 8 above.

Referring to claim 22, see the rejection of claim 8 above.

Referring to claim 38, Fan '706 discloses a discriminating unit that discriminates whether or not to permit communication with the external apparatus (col. 8, lines 32-59, IP source address and destination port compared against an ACL),

wherein said port number notifying unit notifies the port number in a case where said discriminating unit discriminates to permit the communication with the external apparatus (col. 7-8, lines 61-67, 1-10, firewall determines which additional channels should be dynamically opened).

Kayashima '366 discloses a port number notifying unit that notifies a computer of a port number (col. 10, lines 44-46, server notifies the port number to the client computer).

Referring to claim 39, Fan '706 discloses wherein the discrimination information of the external apparatus is an IP address of the external apparatus (col. 8, lines 32-59, IP source address and IP destination address).

Referring to claim 41, see the rejection of claim 38 above.

Referring to claim 42, see the rejection of claim 39 above.

Referring to claim 44, see the rejection of claim 38 above.

Referring to claim 45, see the rejection of claim 39 above.

5. Claims 10 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fan '706 and Kayashima '366 as applied to claims 8 and 18 above, and in further view of Yonenaga '872.

Referring to claim 10, Fan '706 discloses a data processing apparatus, but do not disclose expressly the data processing apparatus is a printer.

Yonenaga '872 discloses a computer that includes a printer (col. 1, lines 56-67).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include a printer within a computer. The motivation for doing so would have been to increase the portability of a computer-printer system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Yonenaga '872 with Fan '706 and Kayashima '366 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 10.

Referring to claim 20, see the rejection of claim 10 above.

6. Claims 40, 43, and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fan '706 and Kayashima '366 as applied to claims 8, 18, and 22 above, and in further view of well known prior art.

Referring to claim 40, Fan '706 discloses said port number notifying unit notifying of a plurality of different port numbers but does not disclose expressly notifying a port number corresponding to a print process or a port number corresponding to a managing process.

Official Notice is taken that it is well known and obvious in the art for a port number to correspond to a printing process and for a port number to correspond to a managing process. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious for the system of Fan '706 to notifying the external apparatus (as taught by Kayashima '366) a printing port number or a managing port number. The motivation for doing so would have been to designate certain port number to certain applications. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine well known prior art with Fan '706 and Kayashima '366 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 40.

Referring to claim 43, see the rejection of claim 40 above.

Referring to claim 46, see the rejection of claim 40 above.

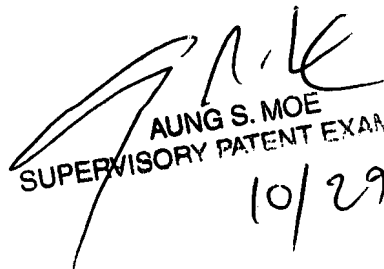
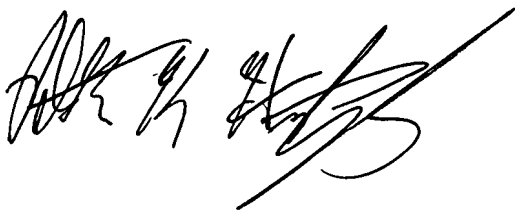
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter K. Huntsinger whose telephone number is (571)272-7435. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Moe Aung can be reached on (571)272-7314. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

PKH



AUNG S. MOE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
10/29/07